

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add the Abstract appearing on the following page:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The encoder transforms the audio signals $(x(n), y(n))$ from the time domain to audio signal $(X(k), Y(k))$ in the frequency domain, and determines the cross-correlation function (R_i, P_i) in the frequency domain. A complex coherence value (Q_i) is calculated by summing the (complex) cross-correlation function values (R_i, P_i) in the frequency domain. The inter-channel phase difference (IPD_i) is estimated by the argument of the complex coherence value (Q_i) , and the inter-channel coherence (ICI_i) is estimated by the absolute value of the complex coherence value (Q_i) .